

Prayer focus

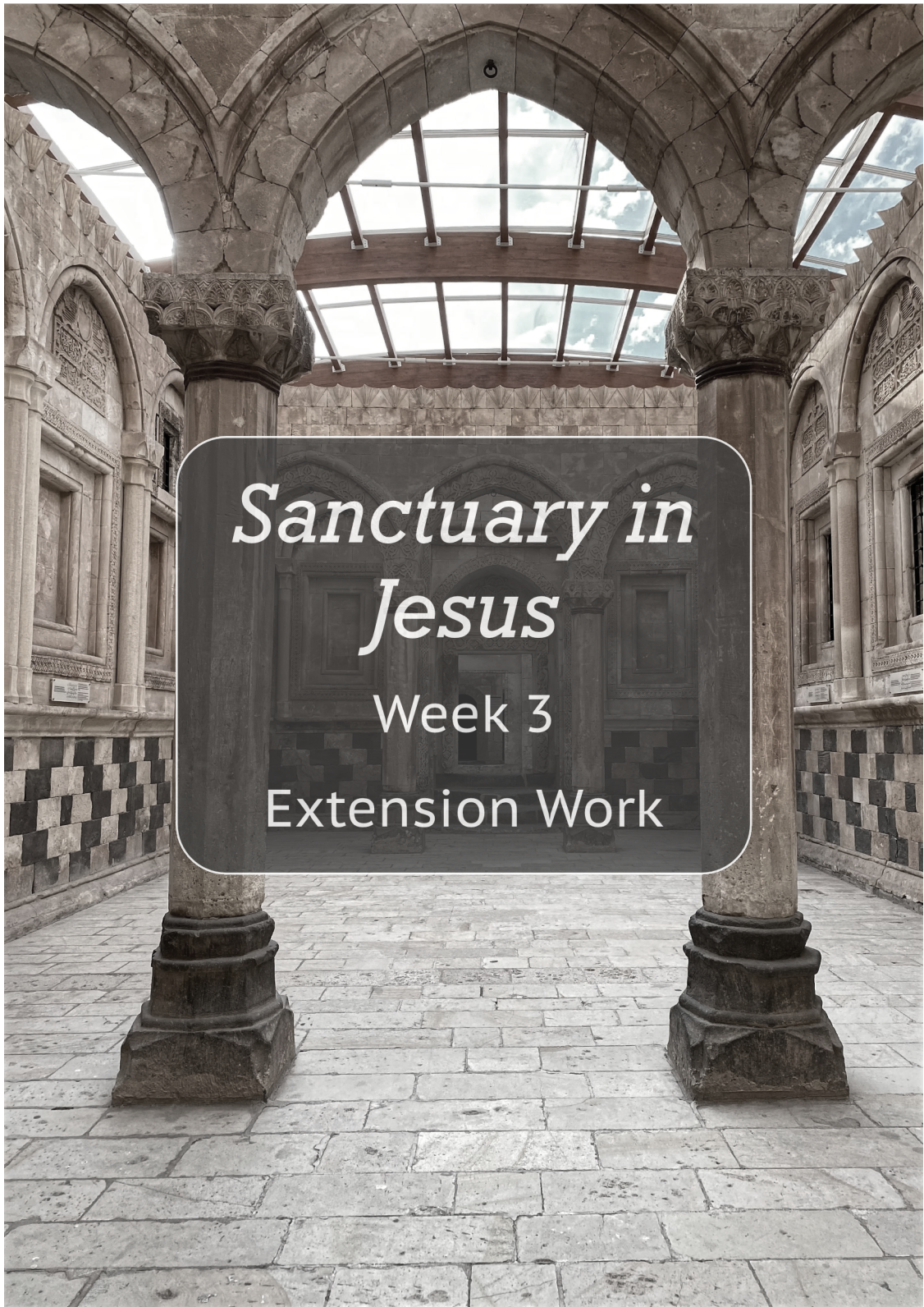
Praise Jesus because He is and has and shares every good thing with His followers. Thank Him for His love and care for you today, and for His generosity toward you right now. Confess any remaining doubt regarding His willingness or ability to help you, and ask Him for what you need.

Who are the tourists in your life? Take a moment to pray for them by name. If you are the tourist, consider why you haven't already surrendered to Jesus as Lord... what is holding you back?

Preparation for next week:

We invite you to watch episode 6: Reunions of season 5 of The Chosen: The same coin on [Amazon Prime](#) or the web <https://watch.thechosen.tv/>

Note we are skipping the work following episode 5: Because of Me, it is a very good episode, but, will be our second missed chapter from the workbook.



*Sanctuary in
Jesus*

Week 3

Extension Work

What does Christ want for us?

Read Luke 12:22-31 and John 17:20-26.

Your turn:

Compare what Jesus says we don't have to worry about versus what He does pray for you?

Re-read John 17:20-26 and make a list of the things Jesus prayed for.

For Bible Geeks (like us) Who Want to Know!

People are often surprised to learn that Jesus' insistence on 1. the unfailing authority of God's Word and 2. its applicability to life, aligns Him closely with the Pharisees.

"Do not think I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until it is all accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments

and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 5:17-20)

"The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the Kingdom of God is preached, and everyone forces his way into it. But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one dot of the Law to become void." (Luke 16:16-17)

But if Jesus was most like the Pharisees among the variety of parties in first-century Judaism (much more so than the liberal Sadducees, the party of the priestly aristocracy i.e. the pious and wealthy elite, who were in league with Rome), why did He have such harsh words for them?

Simply put, because it's all too common for conservative Bible believers to take themselves more seriously than they take the Word of God.

See: Matthew 23:1-7 and Luke 20:45-47

Fully Stocked

Read John 1:10-14, 16-18

Those of us who choose to pursue Jesus beyond our initial introduction, who believe He is the One who made the world and everything in it, who trust Him for forgiveness of sin and victory over death, who spend our lives learning to surrender to Him more and more... we are witnesses to His glory!

Our eyes see Him in creation. Our attuned ears hear His still, small voice. Our minds (and all the questions therein) are satisfied by the truth of Scripture. Our hearts are at peace because God has taken up residency there (Phil 4:7, Col. 3:15). Indeed, the followers of Jesus get to experience His grace and truth and light and love on a daily basis. And we get to extend all those things to others.

How?

Through Jesus, who is constantly sharing every good thing with us – which means not only do we have an inheritance set aside, guarded and kept safe in heaven for us (1 Peter 1:3-5), we also have access to God the Father right now (Psalm 121:1-8, Matthew 7:11, Romans 5:1-2, Ephesians 2:18-19, James 1:17-18 and many more verses!).

Think about that.

We have access to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, right now. We have access to the One whom the world goes after, and whom many ultimately reject – but not us.

We who are in Christ lack nothing because in Him we have **Every Good Thing**.

After all, **He is the fully-stocked Sanctuary we desperately need.**

Your turn:

Take some time to read John 1 and list Jesus' attributes. What resources from His limitless stockpile do you need most today?

Practise active listening

Listening skills act like muscles, they only develop if exercised. Pick your most common "deadly sin" response and practise avoiding it this week. Use the pause to seek another way to respond.

Brené Brown's mantra

Brené Brown has a signature mantra she repeats to herself before responding to a challenge or difficult enquiry:

"Don't puff up, don't shrink, stand your sacred ground."

Consider this mantra and the emotions it suggests Brené navigates when challenged.

Your turn:

What words or phrase describe the reactions you navigate when challenged?

Can you create a phrase that maps you through this process so you can respond as your best self rather than react?

